THE NEXT PRESIDENCY.

Pirst General Chapter of Extracts for the Year 1856.

INTERESTING MOVEMENTS FOR THE SUCCESSION.

Official Transactions--Views and Speculations of the Newspaper Press,

&c.,

THEY STICK TO THE TWELFTH SECTION.

We have received a copy of the "Minutes of the State Council of Pennsylvania (K. N.) and their Proceedings, approving and endorsing the National Platform, (including, especially, the 12th sec-tion,) together with the Address to the Subordinate Councils." These proceedings took place at a special session of the State Council, held at Philadel. phia, commencing on the 18th December, 1855, and erminating on the 20th. Among their other reso-ations is the following, which has direct reference to the address that follows:-

e the address that follows:—
Resolved, That the minutes purporting to be the proceedings of the State Council of Pennsylvania, which assembled at Reading, on the 3d dast, disclose the fact of the secession from the national organization of a large number of those in attendance, who have repudiated the National Council and discovered its authority, and that, therefore, their entire proceedings are, in the opinion of this State Council, disorganizing, and are hereby repudiated and disavowed.

JANUARY 1, 1856.—The State Council assembled at the stall of the Same of Averciae, in Philadelphia portheast

JANUARY 1, 1856.—The State Council assembled at the Hall of the Sons of Ancerica, in Philadelphia, northeast corner of Seventh and Sansom streets, and adjourned, to meet again at the same place on the 16th day of February next, to which meeting all delegates representing councils who stand upon the national platform, are invited.

E. POULSON, Secretary.

The following is the address adopted by the council, and ordered to be published:—

TO THE SUBORDINATE COUNCILS IN THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The following is the address adopted by the council, and ordered to be published:—

TO THE SUBORDINATE COUNCILS IN THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The American State Council having concluded an interesting and important session at Philadelphia, have deemed it expedient to address to you a few remarks in reference to the condition of the American party in this State. It is known to you that the National Convention, which assembled in June last, adopted a platform of principles of a highly conservative and national character, which, it was hopes, would be acceptable to the great body of the American order. This platform asserted, in its twelfth section, the decrine of non intervention upon the subject of slavery, and declared that the American party, as a party, had no connection with that issue, and was not responsible for the existing legislation on the subject, as all the enactments of Congress had been passed by the two old parties. It was the simple assertion of the dostrine, that the American question, and did not mean to entangle itself with the vexed and complicated question of slavery. The wisdom of such a course of procedure was abvious to all who had reflected upon the subject, as it left the party to rely upon its own great principles for success, and permitted its members, upon the irritating question of slavery, to vote and act according to their own conscionations convictions of truth and duty. This course, so shrivensly public and just, was not satisfactory to the delegates from some of our sister States, and they endeavered to construct a platform which should commit the party to a specific course on the question of slavery, and, as far as possible, gire to it the direction of a sectional or Northern party. This view of the question was agitated and sustained by brethren belonging to our Order, who were more intent upon restraining or abolishing the institution of slavery than they were more intention or Philadelphia platform, and the remaining five favored the sectional or Northern platform, to whic

should be restored, and that if efforts to that end should fail, Congress should refuse to admit any State tolerating slavery, which should be formed out of any portion of the Territory from which slavery was excluded by that compromise.

It will be perceived that the foregoing vote in the State Council abrogated the non intervention principle of the national platform upon which it was impossible for the South or middle States to stand. The object of the National Council had been to exclude the question of slavery altogether from consideration, while that of the State Council, on the contrary, manifested a determination to commit the Order to a specific course in respect to it, and that course one of the most objectionable character. There can be no doubt that the design to connect the question of slavery with the deliberations of the American party had been concocted previous to the assembling of the council ar Reading, by those who sympathised with the free soil and abolition movements, and the council was targely packed with delegates who favored this measure, and who seemed determined to carry out their view, without any regard to the consequences that might ensure a full the state of primary importance, and the principles of Americanism as only subordinate or secondary. Entertaining these views, and magining that a connection with outside issues would uncrease the probabilities of success at the polis, the measures which havored them were adopted by large majorities, and marked and decided personal indignities were inflicted upon those who attempted, in any way, to delay or arrest the progress of these unfortunate and fatal acts. It was boldly asserted by those who favored the sectional platform that it would be impossible to carry the vote of Pennsylvania for the American party, and is the dues to make a considered with its principles; and if that were done, our majorities would be largely increased in every section of the State, walls honoronable course towards all the members of the Order in the State w

the convention called by the Nation Council of caudidates for Fresident and Vice President who were willing to stand upon it.

This attempt to turn the American movement into a sectional and Northern party, by creating a concert of union between the States willing to stand upon the Fransylvania platform against such as wished to occupy more national ground, alone created and produced the division in the State Council. It was a bold and wicked attempt to forestal the action of the Nominating Council, and, in advance of its deliberations, caucus for nominees for President and Vice President of the United States, who should be pledged before the country to sectional and local issues. The iniquity of such a movement, apart from its want of policy, and its unfairness towards all the States of the I min not included in the invitation ought at once to have caused its rejection. But no such spirit influenced its projectors. As if fattally bent on ruin, they pushed their measures to an extremity, and no entreaties or exportulations could induce them to withdraw or modify their resoution. The question was taken and decided in the affirmative. At this point in the sistory of the proceedings of the Reading Guncil, the difficulties which have since embarrassed cur movements in Pennsylvania commensed: It exhibited the fact that a majority of the delegate who had gone to Reading had become insubordinate in their feelings and acts towards the Fational Council, had repudiate its laws and jurisdiction, had given their assent, and had, in addition,

carried their evert acts of rebellion to the exical of calling a convention in advance of the one fixed by the national bedy, for the avowed ourpose of forstalling its action and sontrolling its deliberations. The bold and cefant manner in which these acts were consummated could no longer be endured, and but one cours remained to be pursued by those who self their obligations required them to respect and regard the laws and the second of the course of the cour

At the time of the withdrawal of our candidate for Canal Commissioner, the seconing council was in session at Carlisle, and that body, by resolution, approved of the act of the commissioner. He have an anatomed the nomination of Mr. Nicholson. Perhaps a more decided assumption of authority had never been attempted than was exercised by this council in their attempt to legalize and gloss over this act of its committee. It found no authority in any existing usage, nor in the laws or constitution of the Order. It was at variance with the fundamental principles of the organization, which carefully excluded the State Council from participating in the foundamental principles of the organization, which was a just and democratic principle, which ought not to have been infringed, and the course of the council at Carlisle inverted the mode of procedure indicated in our laws. The attempt to assert and exercise such an authority, in the absence of all precedent, in a case confided exclusively to the action of the subordinate councils (and upon which they had acted), was similar in its nature to the action of the same council at Reading, when it disregarded and repudated the national platform. In one case it defied the national constitution, in the other the State constitution; and yet it asks to be considered by the law-abiding members of the Order as the legally constituted State body. We leave you to judge of the justice of a pretensions by the character of its acts.

We wish this long catalogue of usurpations on the part of the secoding council could be brought to a conclusion, without further meation, on our part, of specific acts. views.

At the time of the withdrawal of our candidate for

tensions by the character of its acts.

We wish this long catalogue of a superiors on the part of the seceding council could be brought to a conclusion, without further mention, on our part, of specific acts. Unfortunately, this cannot be done, for there remains another feature in the proceedings at Carlisle, the which we regret we are compelled to allude. It consists to the persistent defiance of the directions of the National Council, as exhibited in the selection made of delegates to the National Council, as you are aware, directed the nominating delegates to be chosen in each Congressional district, and studiously sought to preserve in its purity the damocratic principe of selecting nominees for office by the popular vote of the Order. This republican principle appears to have been especially obnoxious to the council of which Mr. Eddy is President; for, in two instances, it aimed a ceadly blow at the exercise of popular sovereignty, and endeavored to concentrate as much power as possible in its own hands. One of these instances was is the well known case of Peter Martin. He had been selected by the violent of the Order of Canai Commissioner, yet his name was withdrawn, and that of Thomas Nicholson substituted, who was not at the time of his selection a member of the party. The other case was choosing nominating delegates from every representative district in the State, for the purpose of packing the National Convention of the national body, and the council hoped that it would pass without rebuke. The act was not ignoreantly committed, but was the result of a deliberate design to use the machinery of the party to accomplish their own selfish and wicked purposes. A proclamation that the proceedings of this self-constituted State Council have found no lavor with the officers of the national body.

The foregoing statement, which we have presented further and conditions achieved as which we have presented further accomplication achieved.

The foregoing statement, which we have presented for your consideration, exhibits some of the proceedings of the seceding boty, that, in the judgment of this council, cannot receive the conntenance or approval of the Order. The narrative was prepared from a sense of duty to the American party, and it is hoped will enable all who read it to determine for themselves who is responsible for the existing condition of things. That serious errors have been committed in some quarters cannot be any longer concealed or denied. It is the part of wisdom, in view of this fact, to etrace our steps, and get back as speedily as possible to the original landmarks of the party. No other alternative exists, and if the effort be made in a spirit of kindness and moleration, it cannot fait of entire success. All who are truly American in their purposes and objects should henceforth act upon the persuasion that slavery, and all other outside lasues, should be excluded from our deliberations. The former is an irritating and distracting question. It has broken up or embarrassed all other political parties, and will assuredly jepono the success of our distinctive American doctrines, if we perdeliberations. The former an invitate and clistracting question. It has broken up or embarrassed all other political parties, and will assuredly jeopare the success of our distinctive American doctrines, if we permit it longer to be debated in our councils. Non-intervention upon the question of surery, and a determined exclusion of every outside issue, can alone enable us to succeed as a great national party. In view of these great ruths, we earnestly exhort all our brethren to come back to the pure spirit of Americanism—'o battle for the distinctive doctrines of the party—to assist is placing the great and abregating or extending the naturalization laws. When all these great massures of reform shall have been accomplished, and every office in the country, from the highest to the lower, shall be filled only by natives of the soil, then you will have abundance of leisure and opportunity to consider these outside measures. Until that period arrives, we entreat you, for your own enkes, for the sake of your children, and above all, for the sake of our beloved country and its free institutions, to let all these outside issues alone. Abserval, cling to the Union of the States—the constitution and its compromises—just as it is. Consider that Union as the palladium of your freedom, and under no circumstances do anything or countenance anything that would weaken or impair its stability. It is the last hope of freedom in the world; and, if the Federal Union abould be rent asunder by fanaticism and felly, there remains no other foot of soil upon earth upon which the experiment of self-government can ever be again tried. Be it, therefore, the peculiar object of the American organization to guard and uphold the Union of the States. If parricidal hands should ever destroy it, and you should perish in the attempt to sustain and save it, it would be a glorious and an honored marrydom, for with its overthrow would be extinguished the last hope of freedom far the human race. Remember that

In a just cause, and for our country's

Purification of the American Party. [From the Philadelphia Sun, (American organ,) Jan. 5.] The bogus American State Council, which was to have assembled at Huntingdon on Wednesday, was so misera-bly attended that the fifteen or twenty ring-streaked and

speckled members adjourned to Altoons, where they went through the faree of electing delegates to the National Neminating Convention. After this they proceeded to an act of impertinent mendacity by passing the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the Presidents of subordinate councils throughout the State be instructed to withhold the new P. W. from all persons claiming to be with us, who have connected themselves with the secoders from the State Council, of whom J. W. Hamsecker purports to be President; as in the opinion of this Council has have violated their plignted faith; and also that the President with the State Council of the State Council be directed to withhold the P. W. from the Presidents of such councils as have endorsed their action, and revoke the charters of all councils who do not recognise the supremacy of this State Council.

Now what are the facts? The council of which J. W. Hunsecker is freedom't was organized on the 5th Juny 18st, at Redding, atter the body of the then State Council had succeeded by repudiating a committee to make arrangements for a sectional convention, to meet in Charles, and appointing a committee to make arrangements for a sectional convention, to meet in Charles, and the State Council had succeeded by repudiating the national American make whose grants and the succeeding the

of such egregious errors of policy as have now paralyzed our efforts, and impeded the success of our glorious cause.

The American Party in Virginia.

[From the Richmond (Va.) Whig—Am. organ]

PROCEKDINGS EXTRAORDINARY.

At what purports to have been "a regular meeting of the combined councils of the national American party of the city of Richmond, held on the first of January, 1856," the following resolutions, which we find published in the National American, are said to have been adopted:—

Resolved, As the opinion of this council, that "the agitation of slavery should cease. The rights of the South are plain and palpable, well defined and understood, and we believe they should not longer be treated as open questions. We will main an our guaranteed constitutional rights, and our right of property in slaves. We believe the continuous agitation of this subject is made by selfash politicians for pers mal and party promotion, and is hurtful to the South, the institution of slavery and the permanency of the Union; and therefore we are opposen to the introduction into the national American platform of this, or any other agitating question, calculated to distract the harmony of our party, or endanger the success of our principles.

Resolved, As it is well known that our distinguished fellow-citizen, the Hon. John M. Botts, was among the first to advocate the policy avowed by the na ional American party, it is but an act of simple justice to Jeclare our confidence in his principles and admiration of his talents; and, if he should be called to presize over the destinies of the nation, we are fully justified in declaring that he will bring to the task a devotion to the principles we cherish, an enlarged experience, a profound segacity and comman. Siglects which more in the nation can be found to excel, or perhaps 19 equal; and that we heartily respond to the action of the Thiargle Council and American party of the city of Richmond." And that is, that it is a clear, unequivocal and shameful misrepresentation of the equi

From the judgment of the "combines councils," represented by fifty or six'y individuals, the sworn liegemen of John Minor Botts, we boldly take an appeal to the people.

Movements of the Democracy.
[From the Phisadelphia Pennsylvanian.]

THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN IN PENNSYLVANIA. We have, for the last six months, endeavored to keep our reacers posted as to the action of the democracy of Pennsylvania, in the election of delegates to the next State Conventior. In doing this, we have studiously avoided the expression of any opinion as to cur individual preference. Indeed, this has been the course generally adopted by the politicians of the State, leaving the people, in the primary organizations in the different countries, to act as to them seems best for the great interest of the democratic party and the country. That action has been had with a degree of unanimity seldom witnessed in this or any other State. There has been assertely an issue made, the cesire of all appearing to be to act with unanimity in favor of their able and popular statesman. It is also to be remarked that such action on the part of the people has been a spontaneous movement impelled by an honest conviction on their part, and without any action or desire of Mr. Buchanan himself, it is now certain that there will be no division in the State Convention. There is a general and deep rooted determination on the part of the democracy to yield all individual preferences in favor of the cverwhelming majority, as already indicated by the election, so far as it has proceeded.

That Mr. Buchanan and his friends have neither sought now managed for this result is, perhaps, the most powerful lever in producing it. The feeling is strong in Pennsylvania, that an office of such high importance as the Presidency should seek its candidate, and it is for this reason that the absence of Mr. Buchanan at a foreign country, where he has devoted his enlarged experience and master intellect to the interests of our Union, has had no power in leasaning his popularit

Total. For Mr. Buchanas. For Mr. Da
Representatives 55
Sena ors. 17

Total 80
It will be seen that Mr. Buthanan already has a larmajority of the whole number of delegales to which ti
State is entitled.

Wise and Bucharan.

Wise and Bucharen.

[Extract of a late Washington letter to the Richmond Enquirer.]

A feeling seems to exist throughout the country at this time, to bring Buchanan again before the country as a candidate for the Presidency in 1856. This has been determined on by his friends, without knowing whether it will be agreeable to him or not; indeed, it is known that he has written to his friends that he has no risk ever again to enter into public life—that for the balance of his life he desires to be exempt from active political turmell. His friends, however, thick they have claims on him, and on his noble State, which has never yet had a candidate before the ycople for the Presidency, and has never had but one Vice President. It is connected on all hands that the democratic party, to succeed in 1856, must have at least one of the three large States—Onlio, New York or Fennsylvania. No certain calculation can be made on the two first, and it is therefore indispensable to secure the last. The majority which she has recently given is one which can be relied on, if her voice has its due weight, but it is not large enough to be tampered with.

has recently one weight, but it is not large enough to be tampered with.

Letters have been received here from Gov. Wise, giving it as his opinion, in the present attitude of parties and state of the country, that the South should present no

represented to the Gincinnati Gouvention. Of this you may be assured. I speak howingly on the subject.

Forcign Democracy Threatening to Overran

(From the St. Louis Intelligencer.)

The soft section of the New York democracy is the prediction of the St. Control of the Control of Con

lows:—
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Massachusetts—11.
Massachusetts—11.
Results Anno Noking.
New John Maryland,
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This result give, as it will have been seen, no candicate more than eleven S ates, when under the provision of the constitution quoted, sixteen will be required. In reference to the event of a failure to elect—ane with a

reference to the event of a faiture to elect—ane with a House constituted as the present one is, a faiture would be more than probable—the article of the constitution quoted further provides:—

And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President—whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President.

In reference to the election of Vice President, when there has been no choice by the people, the succee insection of the same article of the constitution says:—

If no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whose number shall be necessary to a choice.

In the Senate, as it stands now, the democrats number thirty-three members, and all shades of the opposition combined twenty-five—there being four vacancies—which renders tolerably certain, under any circumstance, the election of a democratic Vice-President, who would become President by the failure of both the College of Electors and the House of Representatives to effect a choice. The majority requirement has done nothing worse so far than to prevent the organization of Congress and the Legislature. Whether it will be voted a nuisance or a blessing when it shall have filled the Presidential chorusting the axiom, "The world is governed too much." It may be considered that its operation thus far has been wholesome by serving as a brake on locomotive legislation.

In a been wholesome by serving as a brake on locomotive legislation.

Theatres and Exhibitions.

Broadway Inkatrk —The dazzing spectacle of "King Charming" will be repeated this evening, together with the laughable piece called "Catching a Mermaid." The manager announces that another brilliant spectacle of thriling interest is in active preparation, but it is to be hoped that it will not be permitted to displace "King Charming" until all who desire to do so may have the pleasure of beholding the magnificent scenery of the latter Nido's Garden.—The wonderful Ravels and the charming ballet corps, let by Mile. Robert and Mons. Brilliant will again combine their respective talents in a series of pleasant entertainments this evening. The following active selections:—The comic pantomine of "Robert Marcaire," the protity little ballet entitled "The life of Nymphs" and the gorgeous spectacular fairy pantomime called "Robul," which has proved unusually attractive since its revival.

Bowers Theatre —The recent combination of dramatic and equestrian performances at this house has been very largely partonized; nevertheless previous arrangements render it necessary for Messrs. Myors & Nixon to withdraw their troups and leave for Cuba in a low days, consequently this will be their last week. The ammendments to-night will consist of equestrian and gymnatic feats, the exciting drama of "Victorine"—Mrs. Ward as the heroine—and the farce of "The Secret."

BURTON'S THEATRE—Mr. Burton appears determined not only to keep up with the age, but to keep it in a good numer likewise. He presents four mirth provoking plees to-night, and acts in two of them himself. The first is the one act comicality called "Heads and fails;" the second, "Hurtor's New York Directory." the third. "Toe Clochmaker's Hat," and fourthly and lastly, "A Trip to Niggara." the manager as Pilicoddy. That is quite sufficient for one night's merriment.

Wallack's Inharke.—The highly fattering reception extended to the charming comedy of "Still Waters Run Deep," induc

LAURA KEENE'S VARIETIES.—The sparkling comedy

LAURA KHENE'S VARIETIES.—The sparkling comedy of "The Little Treasure" is announced as the first piece to-night. The cast is of a very superior order—Miss Keene as Gertrude. Mrs. Abbots as Lady Howard, Mrs. Carpenier as Mrs. Meddleton, Mr. Byott as Sir Charles Howard, and Mr. Jordan as Captain Maydenbiush. The successful new drams called "The King of the Court and Queen of the Market's—Miss Keene and Mr. Jordan in the chief characters—will close the amusements.

Woon's Minsters.—These popular favorites, with the pleasure seeking community are still performing to as large audit notes as ever. For this evening they offer a good selection of songs, dances. &c., and the laughable burlesque of "Sambo's Bream."

BYCKLEY'S SERENADLES.—The admirers of Ethiopian mirestrely are temeered a richly humorous steat in that line, by the Buckley's, this evening. The programme of songs is varied and of the best, and the farce is "Richard III" Manager F. Buckley takes a benefit to-morrow.

The BOON CHIDDEN.—These talented little juveniles, assisted by their mother, will give a series of readings from Shakspeare and other favorite authors, at the Chinese Assembly Koone, this evening. It is hoped the little cones will be encouraged, and made happy by a full house.

Come the offerent and the Australia.

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live it an indignant denial.

It will also be seen that the gravamen of the statements contained in my letter was, that Great Britain "gesires and is constantly exerting herself to procure the abolition of slavery throughout the world," and especially in Ieans. So far from a denial, Lord Aberdeen, as quoted by Mr. Benton himself, admits that such is her purpose and policy. Why, these should Mr. Benton volunteer to cefend Great Britain from the charge made in my letter; and why does he resort to such deliberate and unquivocal falsehoods in doing it? I will explain.

Although he knew that Mr. Calboun and his personal friends, as far as he could centrol them, supported Mr. Van Buren as a candidate for the Presidency, and that I took an active part in opposition to them in favor of General Harrison, he yet says, that my "oname was the synonyme of subserviency to Mr. Calboun," and he doubtless be lieves that Mr. Calboun is properly responsible for what I have written and published of him (Col. Benton). He had the arregance to be a prelender for the Presidency, and believed that Mr. Calboun was a competitor. He is and has ever been a sycophantic parasite, and hung on the skirts of Jackson and Van Buren, hoping to inherit their influence. Hence the bitter malignity with which he pursues Mr. Calboun and myself.

To return te Lord Aberdeen's denial of the statements contained in my letter, who does not recollect the part taken by Captain Elliott, the British let the part taken by Captain Elliott, the British